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U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk, R-10th, of Highland Park, announced the nine 10th Congressional District students who will attend U.S. military academies in the fall.

Kirk nominated the nine students for the appointments based upon recommendations of his Military Academy Selection Steering Committee.

"Appointment to a United States military academy is a great honor," said Kirk. "These young men and women have demonstrated scholastic achievement, commitment to leadership and a strong desire to serve their nation. The communities of the 10th Congressional District are fortunate to have these future leaders. Our armed forces will be stronger because of their service."

The following students received military academy appointments:

United States Naval Academy: Jacob Roche, Wilmette, (New Trier High School).

United States Military Academy, Matthew Raygoza, Arlington Heights, (John Hersey High School); Josephine Kim, Glenview, (Glenbrook South High School); Thomas Allman, Highland Park, (Highland Park High School); and Abraham Bailin, Deerfield, (Deerfield High School).

United States Air Force Academy: Karl Mohrmann, Lake Bluff, (Lake Forest High School); Michelle Abruzzo, Inverness, (William Fremd High School); Kyle Tomaszewski, Hoffman Estates, (William Fremd High School); and Jonathan Kim, Northbrook, (Glenbrook South High School).

Kirk's Military Academy Selection Steering Committee interviews all academy candidates and determines 10th Congressional District nominees. Captain James Lovell, Apollo 13 commander and Naval Academy graduate, serves as chairman of the steering committee.

Kirk's office is currently accepting academy requests for the 2008 academic year. To learn more about the nomination process, call the district office at (847) 940-0202.